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SOURCE      Newspapers as indicated.

CCP IMPROVES RAILROAD SERVICE;  
SW CHINA LINES FACE DIFFICULTIES

RAILROADS IN IRRIGATED AREA BEING IMPROVED -- Wen-hui Pao, 10 Sep 40

The New China News Agency reports that there are now 18,480 kilometers of railroads in the liberated areas, of which 15,700 kilometers are in operation. Lines in operation north of the Yang-tzu Chiang are the Pei-p'ing--Pao-t'ou line between Pei-p'ing and Chi-ning, the Lien-yun--Lan-chow line between Hsin-an-chin and Lo-yang (a distance of 569 kilometers), and all of the T'ien-ching--P'u-k'ou, Pei-p'ing--Han-k'ou, Chen-ting--T'ai-yuan, Pei-p'ing--Ku-pai-k'ou, and the Ta-t'ung--Feng-ling-tu lines; those in operation south of the Yang-tzu Chiang include all of the Nan-ching--Shanghai, Shang-hai--Hang-chow, and Hang-chow--K'ing-hsiang lines and a portion of the Kuang-chow (Canton)--Han-k'ou line.

Freight rates were revised at the meeting of the Railway Bureau (t'ieh-tao chu) of the People's Revolutionary Military Committee in August 1949. Three important points of these new rates are 1) rates according to goods -- luxuries and valuables are charged the highest rates and industrial and agricultural products, raw materials, tools, daily necessities, imports and exports, etc., are charged the lowest rates; 2) long-hauling rates -- the rate per kilometer decreases according to the distance after the first 100 kilometers; and 3) compensation -- when an item is lost or damaged in transit due to negligence of the railroad, the owner or sender may demand compensation.

The speed of trains and the general performance of the railroads are also being improved. According to the Northeast Railway Bureau, the rate of rotation of each car (average time lapse between two loadings of each car) in its jurisdiction has decreased from an average of 5.4 days in January 1949 to 3.44 days in July 1949. On the Pei-p'ing--T'ien-ching line the rate of rotation of each car in July 1949 was only 2.32 days.

As to the future outlook of the railroads in the new China, an authoritative source indicated that within 5 years after the complete liberation of China a minimum of 13,876 kilometers of railroads are to be constructed to supplement the existing 22,287 kilometers and to facilitate the growth of other industries.

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**RAILROADS IN SW CHINA FACING DIFFICULTIES -- Kung-shang Jih-pao, 26 Sep 49**

Kuang-chow (Canton) -- Lack of capital and an inadequate supply of fuel and parts are almost paralyzing most of the railroad lines in southwest China. For instance, the average monthly income of the Heng-Yang-Kuei-lin and Kuei-lin-Kuei-yang lines is only 10,000 yuan, which is entirely insufficient to continue normal operations. The railroad ties on the Kuang-chow-Han-k'ou line between Heng-yang and Kuang-chow have deteriorated to such an extent that this line may soon become impassable. The Kuang-chow-Chiu-lung (Kowloon) line also needs to have nearly half of its ties changed immediately to maintain normal operation at the present average speed of 45 kilometers per hour.

**HONG KONG -- T'IENT-CHING SHIPPING INCREASES -- Kung-shang Jih-pao, 22 Sep 49**

A report from the Hong Kong Shipping Bureau reveals that a total of 70 ships, amounting to 139,000 tons, sailed to and from T'ien-ching in August 1949. This was an increase of 65 percent over July 1949. Of the above, 35 were foreign ships, and of the 35, 27 were on the Hong Kong--T'ien-ching run.

**TAIWAN--KOREA AIR SERVICE PLANNED -- Kung-shang Jih-pao, 24 - 25 Sep 49**

Taihoku, 23 September (CNA) -- The China National Aviation Corporation has sent out a test flight from Taihoku to Seoul today in preparation for establishment of air service between these two places.

Seoul, 24 September (CNA) -- The China National Aviation Corporation's test flight from Taihoku arrived at Seoul on 23 September 1949. Various negotiations for establishment of air service between these two places will begin soon.

**SHIPPING SERVICE TO AMOY SUSPENDED -- Kung-shang Jih-pao, 25 Sep 49**

Following the suspension of all air service between Hong Kong and Hsia-men (Amoy), the T'ai-ku Shipping Company has suspended the sailing of the SS K'un-ming to Hsia-men, which was scheduled to leave Hong Kong on 25 September 1949. The shipping service between Hong Kong and Shan-t'ou is still in operation.

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